Message Text

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CONFIDENTIAL STATE 101673

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, KS, US

SUBJECT: ROK DIALOGUE WITH CONGRESS ON ACCESS TO KIM DONG-JO

REF: (A) STATE 101013, (B) SEOUL 3265

- 1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE CALLED IN ROK AMBASSADOR KIM YONG-SHIK APRIL 20 TO EMPHASIZE IMPORTANCE OF TALKING WITH JAWORSKI AND SENATOR STEVENSONAND THUS COMPLETING DIALOGUE INITIATED THROUGH SPEAKER O'NEILL TWO WEEKS AGO. THE RESULT WAS THE SUCCESSFUL ARRANGEMENT OF MEETINGS WITH BOTH NEXT WEEK.
- 2. THE AMBASSADOR CITED JAWORSKI'S HOSTILE EARLIER COMMENTS ON TV AND INITIALLY STRESSED THAT HE COULD ONLY MEET WITH JAWORSKI IF HE FIRST WERE ASSURED THAT THE KOREAN PROPOSALS WERE AN ACCEPTABLE BASIS FOR DISCUSSION OF CONFIDENTIAL.

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ACCESS TO KIM DONG-JO. HOWEVER, HE SUBSEQUENTLY AGREED TO MEET WITH JAWORSKI IF THE MEETING WERE ARRANGED UNDER STATE DEPARTMENT AUSPICES WITH ASSURANCES OF SECRECY. WE HAVE CONSEQUENTLY BEEN ABLE TO CONFIRM A MEETING ON THIS BASIS WITH JAWORSKI FOR TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 25 AT STATE. HOLBROOKE WILL BE PRESENT INITIALLY.

- 3. WITH REGARD TO A MEETING WITH STEVENSON, KIM REPEATEDLY ASSERTED THAT THIS WAS NO PROBLEM. OUR CONVERSATION WAS INDECISIVE, SINCE IT WAS ALSO CLEAR THAT KIM HAD NOT RESPONDED TO REPEATED REQUESTS WE HAD PASSED FROM THE SENATOR FOR A MEETING. LATER WE DID ARRANGE THROUGH COUNSELOR PARK THAT SENATOR STEVENSON BE INFORMED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE AMBASSADOR'S WILLINGNESS TO MEET WITH HIM EARLY NEXT WEEK, AND THAT THE AMBASSADOR'S STAFF WILL CONFIRM THE ACTUAL APPOINTMENT.
- 4. VERY MUCH APPRECIATE YOUR TIMELY HELP IN CROSSING THIS FINAL HURDLE AT LEAST TO BRING ABOUT FACE TO FACE MEETINGS WITH THE PRINCIPLES ON THIS ISSUE. WE HAD EARLIER PROPOSED FACILITATION OF A MEETING HERE, BUT NOW THE SITUATION HAD RIPENED AND THAT WAS NO DOUBT LARGELY DUE TO YOUR EFFORTS THERE. COUNSELOR PARK INFORMED US LATER THAT THE AMBASSADOR'S TOUGH POSTURE (E.G. HE SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO WALK OUT IF JAWRSKI ACTED INSULTINGLY OR REFUSED TO CONSIDER THE KOREAN PROPOSALS) WAS VERY MUCH FOR THE RECORD AND NECESSARY AT THIS JUNCTURE OF AGREEMENT. CHRISTOPHER

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